

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1344

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL OPORTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA

USMISSION NATO

DIA WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 3783

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: PFOR, NATO, PO

SUBJ:PORTUGUESE REACT FAVORABLY TO LONDON SUMMIT

SUMMARY: ADVISER TO PRESIDENT EANES EXPRESSED PLEASURE WITH
NATO SUMMIT AND CARTER-EANES MEETING. PORTUGUESE
MEDIA GAVE EXTENSIVE AND LARGELY FAVORABLE COVERAGE TO SUMMIT
WITH FOCUS ON EANES-CARTER MEETING, EANES'S REMARKS UPON
RETURN, AND PRESIDENT CARTER'S POSITIVE ROLE IN THE SUMMIT.
END SUMMARY

1. EANES PLEASED: PRESIDENTIAL ADVISER LUIS MARTINS, WHO
ACCOMPANIED EANES TO LONDON, TOLD EMBOFF MAY 12 THAT THE
LONDON SUMMIT AND THE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER HAD
GONE VERY WELL. MARTINS SAID PRESIDENTS CARTER AND
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EANES GOT ALONG WELL PERSONALLY AND PRESIDENT
CARTER HAD DEMONSTRATED HIS FAMILIARITY WITH PORTUGUESE
PROBLEMS. MARTINS NOTED THAT PRESIDENT CARTER REGRETTED
THAT HE COULD ONLY MEET BRIEFLY AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT
VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE AND EANES COULD TALK AT GREATER
LENGTH.

2. MEDIA ON CARTER-EANES: PORTUGUESE PRESS, RADIO, AND TELEVISION GAVE PROMINENT COVERAGE TO THE PRESIDENTS' MEETING, WITH FOCUS ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S WISH TO MEET REGULARLY WITH EANES. PRESS SAID MEETING HAD CONCENTRATED ON BILATERAL AGREEMENTS AND US FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL. SEVERAL NEWSPAPERS NOTED THAT THE MEETING WAS NOT SCHEDULED UNTIL THE LAST MINUTE DUE TO DIPLOMATIC QUESTIONS OVER THE MEETING SITE.

3. TRIUMPH FOR EANES: MEDIA GAVE MOST PROMINENT COVERAGE TO ROLE OF PRESIDENT EANES AT SUMMIT. "TEMPO" CALLED HS PERFORMANCE IN LONDON A "SUCCESS FOR EANES." MEDIA REPORTED EANES'S MAY 11 STATEMENTS TO PRESS IN LONDON AND LISBON INCLUDING FOLLOWING:

-- ECONOMIC PROBLEMS RECOGNIZED" A CONCERN FOR EXTENDING THE ALLIANCE TO NON-MILITARY MATTERS WAS THE SUMMIT'S DOMINANT THEME. THE ALLIANCE RECOGNIZED THAT MILITARY SECURITY IS FUNDAMENTALLY A PROBLEM OF ECONOMIC SECURITY.

-- CONSULTATION" MUTUAL CONSULTATION, INCLUDING THE SMALLER COUNTRIES, WILL STRENGTHEN THE ALLIANCE.

-- HUMAN RIGHTS: PORTUGAL HAS THE MORAL FORCE TO STRUGGLE FOR UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS. A THAW IS NECESSARY TO CONVERT ARMS EXPENDITURES TO SOCIAL BENEFITS.

-- COMMITMENT TOWARD PORTUGAL: FOREIGN LEADERS DEMONSTRATED IN BILATERAL MEETINGS GREAT WILLINGNESS TO ASSIST IN CON-

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SOLIDATING PORTUGAL'S ECONOMIC DEMOCRACY. FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO PORTUGAL WILL ALLOW THE RESOLUTION OF BALANCE OF PAYMENTS PROBLEMS FOR THE NEXT FIFTEEN MONTHS, SUFFICIENT TIME TO NEGOTIATE THE SECOND PART OF THE LOAN.

4. FAVORABLE COMMENTARY: PRESS COMMENTARY ON NATO SUMMIT WAS LARGELY FAVORABLE, WITH STRESS ON PRESIDENT CARTER'S STRONG COMMITMENT TO NATO, THE SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE, THE THEME OF UNITY WHICH DOMINATED THE SUMMIT, AND THE FACT THAT ALL NATO COUNTRIES ARE DEMOCRACIES FOR THE FIRST TIME. THE COMMUNIST AND LEFTIST PRESS FOUND FAULT WITH SMALL DETAILS OF THE SUMMIT, BUT ACCORDED THE SUMMIT AND EANES'S ROLE PROMINENT AND LARGELY STRAIGHTFORWARD COVERAGE.
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